

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) In an absorbent article including a liquid-permeable body-side liner, a substantially liquid-impermeable outer cover, and an absorbent core disposed between the body-side liner and the outer cover, the improvement comprising:

a containment sheet at least partially disposed between at least one of the body-side liner and the absorbent core and the absorbent core and the outer cover, the containment sheet comprising:

~~an uncreped through air dried tissue or a creped Yankee dried a~~
natural fiber tissue; and

at least one treated region comprising a hydrophobic agent applied on the tissue in a predetermined pattern.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently Amended) In the absorbent article of Claim [[1]] 101, wherein the containment sheet comprises the uncreped through air dried tissue and the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 20% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

4. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 3, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 15% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

5. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 4, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 10% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) In the absorbent article of Claim [[1]] 101, wherein the containment sheet comprises the creped Yankee dried tissue and the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 60% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi

8. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 7, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 40% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

9. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 8, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 25% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

10. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a dryness improvement percent of at least about 25% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

11. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 10, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a dryness improvement percent of at least about 50% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

12. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic agent is applied by at least one of printing, spraying, and inkjet printing.

13. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the hydrophobic agent comprises a compound selected from the group

consisting of alkyl ketene dimers, alkenyl succinic anhydrides, latex compounds, hydrophobic silicone compounds, and combinations thereof.

14. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the containment sheet further comprises synthetic fibers.

15. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the at least one treated region has a hydrostatic head value of at least about 5 millibars.

16. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 15, wherein the at least one treated region has a hydrostatic head value of at least about 10 millibars.

17. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 16, wherein the at least one treated region has a hydrostatic head value of at least about 16 millibars.

18. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the at least one treated region has an air permeability value of at least about 25 cfm/min/ft².

19. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 18, wherein the at least one treated region has an air permeability value of at least about 60 cfm/min/ft².

20. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 19, wherein the at least one treated region has an air permeability value of at least about 150 cfm/min/ft².

21. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the at least one treated region has a % Wet/Dry tensile strength of at least about 15%.

22. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 21, wherein the at least one treated region has a % Wet/Dry tensile strength of at least about 30%.

23. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the at least one treated region has a sizing agent percent add-on of at least about 0.1%.

24. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 23, wherein the at least one treated region has a sizing agent percent add-on of at least about 0.5%.

25. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 24, wherein the at least one treated region has a sizing agent percent add-on of at least about 1.0%.

26. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, the containment tissue further comprising at least two treated regions separated by at least one untreated region.

27. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of claim 26, wherein each treated region comprises a size of at least about 1 square millimeter.

28. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 27, wherein each treated region comprises a size of at least about 10 square millimeters.

29. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 28, wherein each treated region comprises a size of at least about 75 square millimeters.

30. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 29, wherein each treated region comprises a size of at least about 150 square millimeters.

31. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, the containment tissue further comprising at least two treated regions wherein at least one of the at least two treated is a different size.

32. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, the containment tissue further comprising at least two untreated regions separated by at least one treated region.

33. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of claim 32, wherein each untreated region comprises a size of at least about 1 square millimeter.

34. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 33, wherein each untreated region comprises a size of at least about 10 square millimeters.

35. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 34, wherein each untreated region comprises a size of at least about 75 square millimeters.

36. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 35, wherein each untreated region comprises a size of at least about 150 square millimeters.

37. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, the containment tissue further comprising at least two untreated regions wherein at least one of the at least two untreated is a different size.

38. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, the containment tissue further comprising a density of less than about 0.25 grams per cubic centimeter.

39. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 38, the containment tissue further comprising a density of less than about 0.15 grams per cubic centimeter.

40. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 39, the containment tissue further comprising a density of less than about 0.10 grams per cubic centimeter.

41. (Currently Amended) An absorbent article, comprising:
a liquid-permeable body-side liner;
a containment tissue adjacent to the body-side liner, the containment tissue comprising at least one of an uncreped through air dried tissue ply and a creped Yankee dried tissue ply including a fiber matrix and at least one treated region wherein a hydrophobic agent is applied to the fiber matrix in the fiber matrix in the at least one treated region;
an absorbent core adjacent the containment tissue; and
a substantially liquid-impermeable outer cover adjacent to the absorbent core.

42. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein at least one treated region comprises a predetermined pattern.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the containment tissue comprises the ~~at least one~~ uncreped through air dried tissue ply and the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 20% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

45. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 44, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 15% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

46. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 45, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 10% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

47. (Canceled)

48. (Currently Amended) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the containment tissue comprises the ~~at least one~~ creped Yankee dried tissue ply and the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 60% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

49. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 48, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 40% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

50. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 49, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 25% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

51. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a dryness improvement percent of at least about 25% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

52. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 51, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a dryness improvement percent of at least about 50% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

53. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the hydrophobic agent is applied by at least one of printing, spraying, and inkjet printing.

54. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the hydrophobic agent comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of alkyl ketene dimers, alkenyl succinic anhydrides, latex compounds, hydrophobic silicone compounds, and combinations thereof.

55. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the fiber matrix comprises wood pulp fibers.

56. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 55, wherein the fiber matrix further comprises synthetic fibers.

57. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the at least one treated region has a hydrostatic head value of at least about 5 millibars.

58. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 57, wherein the at least one treated region has a hydrostatic head value of at least about 10 millibars.

59. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 58, wherein the at least one treated region has a hydrostatic head value of at least about 16 millibars.

60. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 59, wherein the at least one treated region has an air permeability value of at least about 25 cfm/min/ft².

61. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 60, wherein the at least one treated region has an air permeability value of at least about 60 cfm/min/ft².

62. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 61, wherein the at least one treated region has an air permeability value of at least about 150 cfm/min/ft².

63. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the at least one treated region has a % Wet/Dry tensile strength of at least about 15%.

64. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 63, wherein the at least one treated region has a % Wet/Dry tensile strength of at least about 30%.

65. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the at least one treated region has a sizing agent percent add-on of at least about 0.1%.

66. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 65, wherein the at least one treated region has a sizing agent percent add-on of at least about 0.5%.

67. (Original) The containment tissue of Claim 66, wherein the at least one treated region has a sizing agent percent add-on of at least about 1.0%.

68. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the absorbent article comprises a diaper.

69. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the absorbent article comprises a swimpant.

70. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the absorbent article comprises a training pant.

71. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the absorbent article comprises a feminine care product.

72. (Original) The absorbent article of Claim 41, wherein the absorbent article comprises a medical absorbent product.

73. (Withdrawn) An absorbent article, comprising:
a liquid-permeable body-side liner;
a containment tissue adjacent to the body-side liner and wrapped around
an absorbent core; and
a substantially liquid-impermeable outer cover adjacent to the wrapped
absorbent core;

wherein the containment tissue comprises a fiber matrix including at least one treated region, and at least one sizing agent applied in the at least one treated region.

74. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the at least one treated region covers substantially all of a surface of the absorbent core facing the outer cover.

75. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 74, wherein the at least one treated region covers sides of the absorbent core.

76. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the containment tissue further comprises at least one uncreped through air dried tissue ply.

77. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 76, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 20% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

78. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 77, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 15% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

79. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 78, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 10% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

80. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the containment tissue comprising at least one creped Yankee dried tissue ply.

81. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 80, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 60% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi

82. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 81, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 40% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

83. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 82, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a percent rewet of less than about 25% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

84. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a dryness improvement percent of at least about 25% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

85. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 84, wherein the at least one treated region further comprises a dryness improvement percent of at least about 50% at an applied pressure of 1.0 psi.

86. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the hydrophobic agent is applied by at least one of printing, spraying, and inkjet printing.

87. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the hydrophobic agent comprises a compound selected from the group consisting of alkyl ketene dimers, alkenyl succinic anhydrides, latex compounds, hydrophobic silicone compounds, and combinations thereof.

88. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the absorbent article comprises a diaper.

89. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 73, wherein the absorbent article comprises a feminine care product.

90. (Currently Amended) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, further comprising a visual contrast between the ~~fiber matrix~~ tissue when wetted and the treated region.

91. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 90, wherein the visual contrast is selected from the group consisting of ISO Brightness, “L” factor, “a” factor, “b” factor, absorption and scattering coefficients, opacity, and combinations thereof.

92. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 91, wherein one of the ISO Brightness and “L” factor comprises a difference of at least about 1.0 unit.

93. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 92, wherein one of the ISO Brightness and “L” factor comprises a difference of at least about 5.0 units.

94. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 93, wherein one of the ISO Brightness and “L” factor comprises a difference of at least about 10.0 units.

95. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 91, wherein the “a” factor comprises a difference of at least about 1.0 unit.

96. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 95, wherein the “a” factor comprises a difference of at least about 5.0 units.

97. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 91, wherein the “b” factor comprises a difference of at least about 1.0 unit.

98. (Previously Presented) In the absorbent article of Claim 97, wherein the “b” factor comprises a difference of at least about 5.0 units.

99. (Previously Presented) The absorbent article of Claim 41, further comprising a visual contrast between the fiber matrix when wetted and the treated region of the containment tissue, wherein the visual contrast is detectable through the body-side liner.

100. (Withdrawn) The absorbent article of Claim 73, further comprising a visual contrast between the fiber matrix when wetted and the treated region, wherein the visual contrast is detectable through at least one of the body-side liner and the outer cover.

101. (New) In the absorbent article of Claim 1, wherein the natural fiber tissue comprises a tissue material selected from a group consisting of an uncreped through air dried tissue and a creped Yankee dried tissue.